

House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

Editorial Reply: Campaign Financing Not So Simple



Presented by: State Rep. Toni Boucher (R)--Wilton, Norwalk

November 9, 2005 - A recent Cablevision editorial stated that the campaign finance reform issue was too complex to resolve. I'm Toni Boucher, State Representative for Wilton and Norwalk, and I disagree. In my opinion, this issue is not about complexity. It's about foot-dragging. The legislative majority in Hartford--all Democrats--is playing delaying games, hoping that campaign finance reform will just go away. Let's step back a moment. Last spring both houses of the legislature passed separate versions of campaign finance legislation. Why not? We have been studying this issue for years. Reams of testimony, lots of debate. The two bills were not very different, but the Democrats, who control both houses, could not agree on a bipartisan version before our deadline. So the bill died. Over the summer, Governor Rell formed a bi-partisan working group to smooth out those differences. Just last month, the governor called a special session, reminding lawmakers of the historic opportunity before them; an opportunity to fight political corruption; to ban ad books; to ban or restrict campaign financing by lobbyists and state contractors. What happened? Nothing. The Democrats never even talked about the bill during that special session, much less allowed a vote to be taken. Now they're saying they're going to come up with their own reform package, but Republicans and Governor Rell are still waiting. Clearly, for the majority leadership, it's business as usual. No rocking the boat, no effort to polish Connecticut's image once and for all. The public really deserves better. And I know we can do better! * * * * * To comment on this and other Cablevision Editorials, please visit our website at <http://www.CablevisionEditorials.com>